MARVEL COMICS
DAREDEVIL
DAREDEVIL
JUNE '96 353
NORD
DIRECT EDITION
$1.95 US $2.75 CAN
THE RETURN OF THE MURDEROUS
Mr. HYDE!

TRUST ME...
...SAID THE DEVIL.

...MAYBE IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR ONLY OPTION RIGHT NOW...
...BUT KILLING YOURSELVES WON'T FIX ANYTHING!
BELIEVE ME--I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
YOU DON'T KNOW US, HERO! YOU AIN'T BEEN WHERE WE BEEN! YOU AIN'T SEEN WHAT WE SEEN!
IT'S LIKE EVERY-ONE'S SO JACKED ON GETTIN' TO THE PENTHOUSE, THEY DON'T NOTICE THE FIRST FLOOR'S ON FIRE!
THE FUSE IS LIT, AN' THERE'S JUST ONE WAY OUT!
SO, ME AN' GWEN--WE'RE GONNA GO NOW AN' AVOID THE RUSH!
I AIN'T KIDDIN', HERO! I ALREADY PULLED THE PIN ON THIS PINEAPPLE!
YOU KNOW--YOU'RE RIGHT!
MIND IF I JOIN YOU?
DON'T NEED THIS BILLY-CLUB ANYMORE...
TCHANG!
AHG!
ARTIE--?
...AND YOU DON'T NEED THAT GRENADE!
SWEK!

SAME GOES FOR THE GUN, GWEN.
YOU DON'T MIND IF I CALL YOU "GWEN," DO YOU?
NGH!
TOK!
WHAT'S THIS STILL DOING HERE?
I TELL YOU-- SOME DAYS YOU JUST CAN'T GET RID OF A GRENADE!
THAK!
NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOU TWO--FAR FROM IT!
YOU WANT TO MEET YOUR MAKER --I WANT TO TAKE YOU THERE!
UG!
HEY!
KLENNG!
OF COURSE, SUICIDES DON'T GO TO HEAVEN!

DAREDEVIL® Vol. 1, No. 353, June, 1996. (ISSN #0279-8271) Published by MARVEL COMICS. Gerard Cauterera, President, Stan Lee, Publisher. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1996 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.95 per copy in the U.S. and $2.75 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $23.40, Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST (BST #R127032852). Foreign $35.40. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in the magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DAREDEVIL, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING INC./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE (203) 743-9331. Printed in the USA.

STAN LEE PRESENTS
A NEW ERA FOR THE
SCARLET SWASHBUCKLER
BROUGHT TO YOU BY--
KARL KESEL-- WRITER
CARY NORD-- PENCILLER
MATT RYAN-- INKER
CHRISTIE SCHEELE--COLORIST
JIM NOVAK --LETTERERS
UL HIGGINS -- COLOR SEPS
MALIBU
THE PROFESSOR--EDITOR
BOB HARRAS--EDITOR IN CHIEF

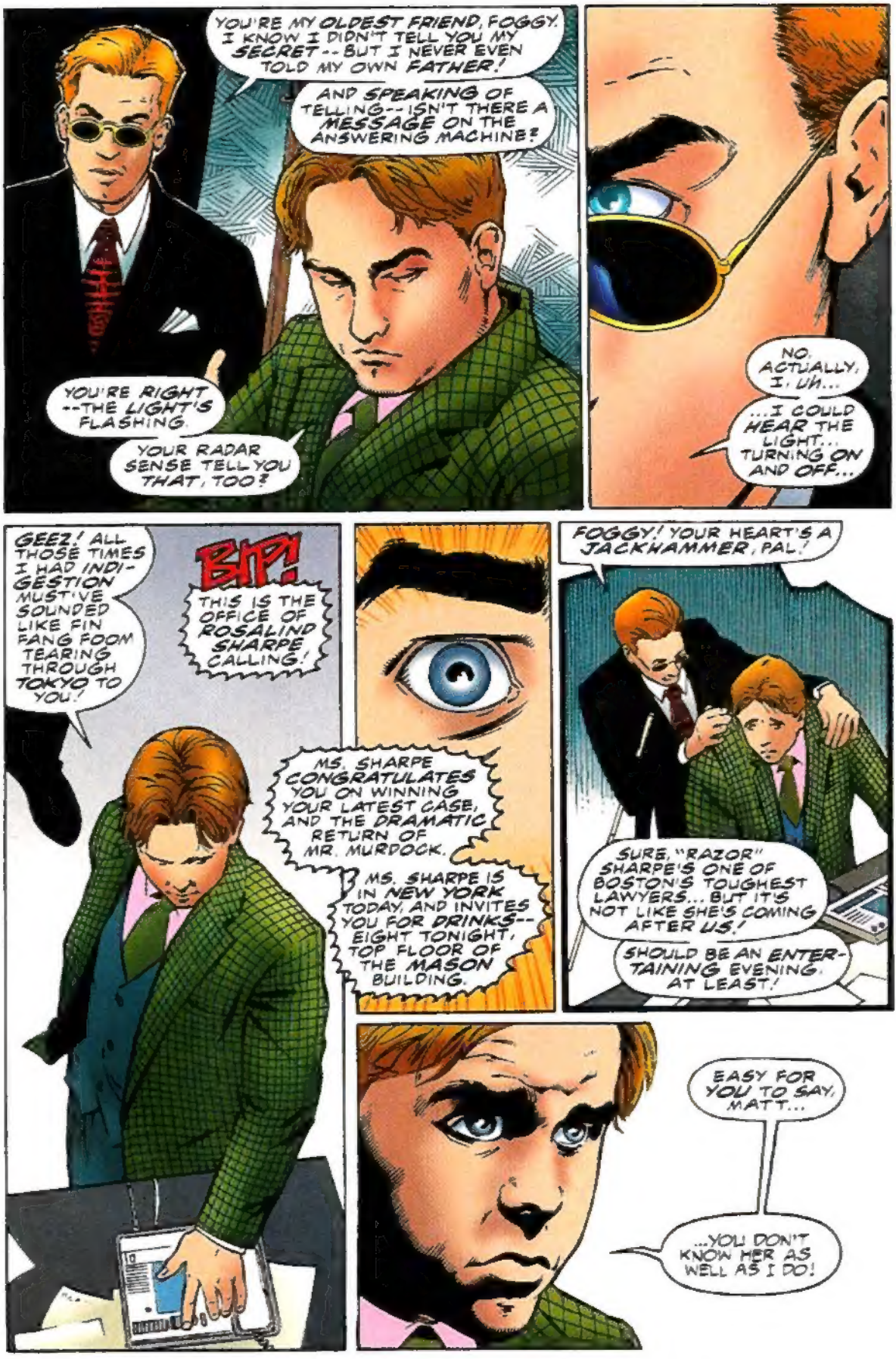
MR. HYDE REDESIGN BY JOHN ROMITA JR.

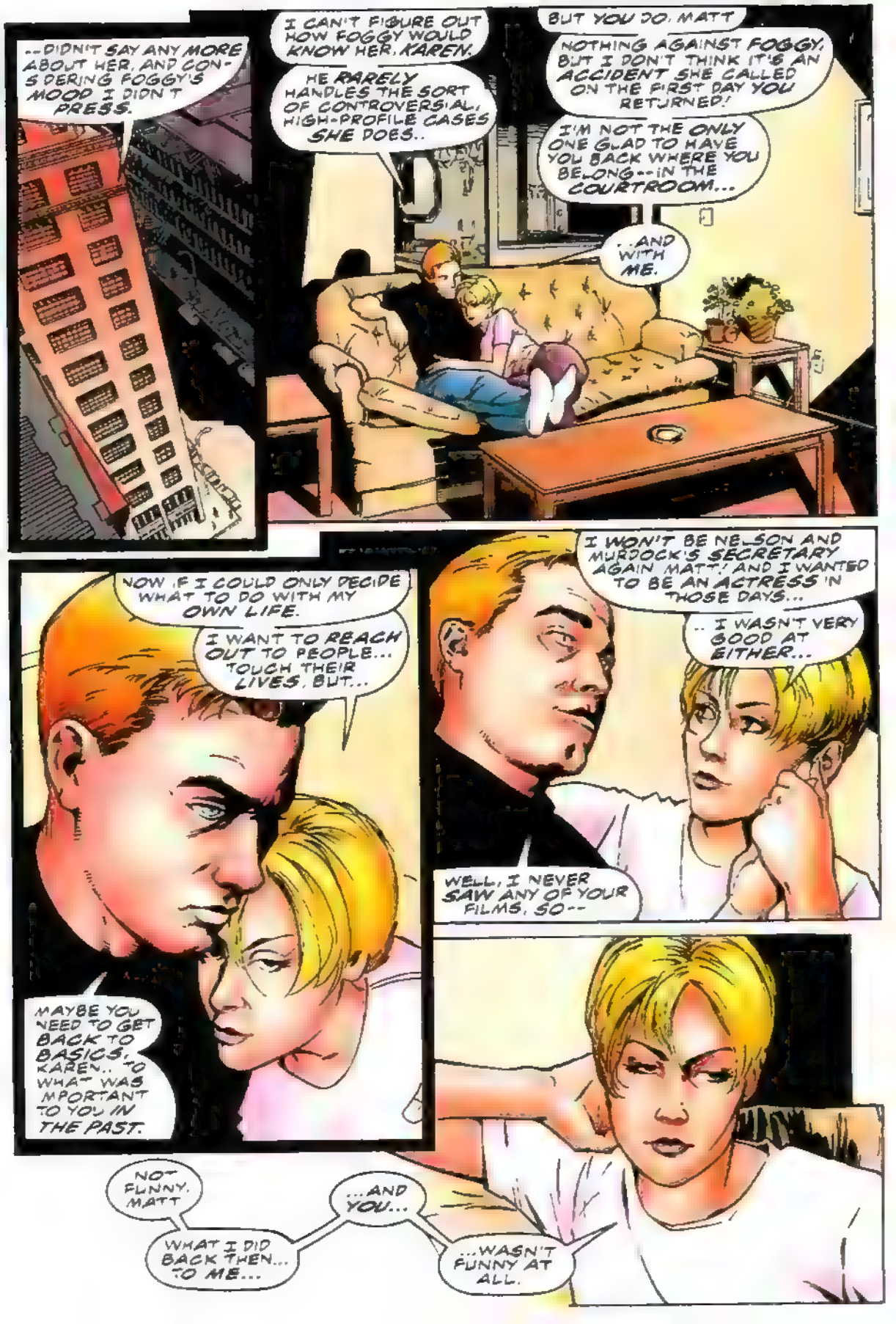
NOTLIKETHIS! NOTLIKETHIS! NOTLIKETHIS!
SAVE US, YOU CRAZY PSYCHO! SAVE US!
WELL, SINCE YOU ASKED SO NICELY...
HANG ON--
FWIPP!
TEK!
--FOR DEAR LIFE!
GULP!
SKREEEEEEE
WHAT NEXT TIME? WE NEVER WANNA SEE YOU AGAIN, HERO!
NOT FER AS LONG AS WE BOTH SHALL LIVE--RIGHT, BABY?
HMM...
OH GOD! OH GOD!
G-GOOD THING YOU SAW THAT CAR!
WOULD YOU BELIEVE ...I DIDN'T?
BUT, HEY--EVERYONE'S SAFE AND SOUND, AND WE'VE ALL LEARNED HOW PRECIOUS LIFE IS...
...SO MAYBE YOU WON'T WAVE PISTOLS AND GRENADES IN MY FACE THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE ME!

SORRY, BUT YOU TWO AREN'T GETTING OFF THAT EASY.
YOU OWE ME. SOMEDAY I'LL COLLECT. WHEN I DO--MAYBE NEXT MONTH, MAYBE NEXT YEAR--YOU DO WHATEVER I SAY.
THEN WE'RE DONE.
NOT EXACTLY MULTIPLE CHOICE, HUH?
YEAH, OKAY...WE CAN DEAL WITH IT--YOU THINK, ARTIE?
NO PROBLEM! I MEAN--HOW YOU GONNA FIND US, HERO?
GWEN AN' ME--WE DON'T KNOW WHERE WE'RE GONNA BE! NOT NEXT MONTH...NOT EVEN NEXT WEEK!
I FOUND YOU TODAY, DIDN'T I?
FWIPP!
"MOVING RIGHT ALONG ...NEXT CASE--BART VERSUS HILL..."
FRANKLIN NELSON FOR THE DEFENSE, YOUR HONOR.
I'D LIKE TO ASK THE COURT FOR A CONTINUANCE.
MR. NELSON.
THE COURT KNOWS--AND IS CERTAIN YOUR CLIENT APPRECIATES--YOUR UTTER THOROUGHNESS, BUT...
BUT HE'S ONLY STALLING, YOUR HONOR...

--UNTIL I COULD GET HERE!
BEGGING THE COURT'S FORGIVENESS--A MAN CAN FORGET A LOT ABOUT THE CITY WHEN HE'S BEEN AWAY FOR A YEAR!
TEK! TAK! TAK!
MATT MURDOCK--SECOND CHAIR FOR THE DEFENSE, YOUR HONOR.
PERRY? LOIS. STOP THE PRESSES--WE'RE ABOUT TO SCOOP THE DAILY BUGLE BIG TIME!
I'M IN NEW YORK FOR A LITTLE R&R, DECIDE TO SEE WHAT'S PLAYING AT THE LOCAL COURTHOUSE... GUESS WHO WALKS IN?
THE MAN WHO BROUGHT DOWN THE KINGPIN!
THAT'S RIGHT! YEAH, I KNOW, EVERYONE--
--THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD, MR. MURDOCK.
YOU'VE ALREADY LOST A TWIN BROTHER... PLEASE DON'T TELL ME THIS WAS A CLONE!
ALL I KNOW IS IT WAS NICK FURY'S IDEA, JUDGE, AND HE USED S.H.I.E.L.D. RESOURCES...
...AND YOU DON'T ARGUE WITH THE HEAD OF AMERICA'S TOP ESPIONAGE AGENCY.
IT WAS FOR MY OWN PROTECTION, OF COURSE--BUT WITH THE KINGPIN'S INFLUENCE ALL BUT GONE, I FELT IT WAS SAFE TO RETURN!
PLUS--THIS CASE IS TOO IMPORTANT TO PASS UP!
MATT! YOU DON'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT THIS CASE! IT'S NOT MUCH MORE THAN A FENDER-BENDER!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU WERE GOING TO PULL THIS STUNT?
I DIDN'T KNOW MYSELF, FOGGY --UNTIL THIS MORNING!

--USED MURDOCK'S REP TO SWAY THE JURY?
--OVERKILL FOR SUCH AN AVERAGE CASE?
--WON BY FORCE OF PERSONALITY, NOT FACTS?
WHEN PEOPLE HIRE NELSON AND MURDOCK, THEY GET NELSON AND MURDOCK.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
AFTER YOU, AND WELCOME BACK... PARTNER!
THANKS, FOGGY. I'VE GOT IT FROM HERE.
I'LL NEVER FORGET HOW MANY STEPS IT IS TO OUR OFFICE.
OKAY, MATT--YOU CAN STOP PRETENDING, NOW.
FOGGY--?
THIS WHOLE "BLIND" THING. I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY DAREDEVIL!
SOME "BEST FRIEND"--LYING TO ME ALL THESE YEARS...PLAYING ME FOR A FOOL...
NO, FOGGY--YOU'RE WRONG! I THOUGHT YOU UNDERSTOOD...
I REALLY AM BLIND, FROM A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT THAT HEIGHTENED MY REMAINING SENSES--
"--AND ADDED A SORT OF...RADAR SENSE!
"IT GIVES ME AN IDEA OF AN OBJECT'S CONTOUR--BUT THAT'S ALL.
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT. YOU ONLY SEE THINGS IN OUTLINE...
...SO YOU DECIDED TO PUT ON A COSTUME, RUN AROUND ON ROOFTOPS, AND FIGHT SUPER-VILLAINS?
"I'M AN ENDLESS CONTRADICTION THAT'D NEVER STAND UP TO CROSS-EXAMINATION, FOGGY.
"ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT WAS PART OF MY CHARM."


YOU'RE MY OLDEST FRIEND, FOGGY. I KNOW I DIDN'T TELL YOU MY SECRET -- BUT I NEVER EVEN TOLD MY OWN FATHER!
AND SPEAKING OF TELLING -- ISN'T THERE A MESSAGE ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE?
YOU'RE RIGHT -- THE LIGHT'S FLASHING
YOUR RADAR SENSE TELL YOU THAT, TOO?
NO, ACTUALLY, I, UH...
...I COULD HEAR THE LIGHT... TURNING ON AND OFF...
GEEZ! ALL THOSE TIMES I HAD INDIGESTION MUST'VE SOUNDED LIKE FIN FANG FOOM TEARING THROUGH TOKYO TO YOU!
BIP!
THIS IS THE OFFICE OF ROSALIND SHARPE CALLING!
MS. SHARPE CONGRATULATES YOU ON WINNING YOUR LATEST CASE, AND THE DRAMATIC RETURN OF MR. MURDOCK.
MS. SHARPE IS IN NEW YORK TODAY, AND INVITES YOU FOR DRINKS -- EIGHT TONIGHT, TOP FLOOR OF THE MASON BUILDING.
FOGGY! YOUR HEART'S A JACKHAMMER, PAL!
SURE, "RAZOR" SHARPE'S ONE OF BOSTON'S TOUGHEST LAWYERS... BUT IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'S COMING AFTER US!
SHOULD BE AN ENTERTAINING EVENING, AT LEAST!
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, MATT...
...YOU DON'T KNOW HER AS WELL AS I DO!


...DIDN'T SAY ANY MORE ABOUT HER, AND CONSIDERING FOGGY'S MOOD I DIDN'T PRESS.
I CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW FOGGY WOULD KNOW HER, KAREN.
HE RARELY HANDLES THE SORT OF CONTROVERSIAL, HIGH-PROFILE CASES SHE DOES..
BUT YOU DO, MATT
NOTHING AGAINST FOGGY, BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S AN ACCIDENT SHE CALLED ON THE FIRST DAY YOU RETURNED!
I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK WHERE YOU BELONG--IN THE COURTROOM...
...AND WITH ME.
NOW IF I COULD ONLY DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH MY OWN LIFE.
I WANT TO REACH OUT TO PEOPLE... TOUCH THEIR LIVES, BUT...
MAYBE YOU NEED TO GET BACK TO BASICS, KAREN.. TO WHAT WAS IMPORTANT TO YOU IN THE PAST.
I WON'T BE NELSON AND MURDOCK'S SECRETARY AGAIN, MATT! AND I WANTED TO BE AN ACTRESS IN THOSE DAYS...
.. I WASN'T VERY GOOD AT EITHER...
WELL, I NEVER SAW ANY OF YOUR FILMS, SO--
NOT FUNNY, MATT
WHAT I DID BACK THEN... TO ME...
...AND YOU...
...WASN'T FUNNY AT ALL.

WE BOTH WENT THROUGH SOME DARK TIMES, KAREN--BUT THOSE DAYS ARE BEHIND US.
WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN--DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH THAT MEANS TO ME?
I'VE NEVER FORGOTTEN...
...YOUR SKIN--SMOOTH AND SOFT AND SUN-WARM, SCENTED WITH LEMON AND JASMINE...
...YOUR HAIR--SILK-FINE AND FEATHER-GENTLE...
...AND YOUR VOICE--AS SOOTHING AND POWERFUL AS WAVES ON THE ROCKS.
BLUE
LIKE A HAZY SKY?
NO
MORE LIKE...LIKE THE FIRST CLEAR DAY AFTER A LONG, GREY WINTER
IF ONLY I COULD SEE YOUR EYES, KAREN.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT COLOR THEY ARE..
I ALWAYS THOUGHT SO...

A DISCREET AMOUNT OF TIME LATER...
'S IT JUST ME--OR DOES LIFE NEVER GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS?
WHO'S HE TALKIN' TO UP THERE?
SPOOMING
UP...
UP...
THAT CERTAINLY ISN'T GEARS GRINDING--AND IT'S COMING FROM THAT WATER-FRONT WARE-HOUSE.
...AND AWAY DOWN THE HIGHWAY WE GO!
DON'T MIND ME, DRIVER--I'M ONLY GOING AS FAR AS THE MASON--
DOUBT ANYONE ELSE CAN HEAR IT OVER THE ROAD NOISE. SOUNDS LIKE A RAMPAGING BEAST, ALMOST LIKE--
--THE HULK!
HE'D DN'T GO SAVAGE AGAIN, D'D HE? NO ONE EVER TELLS ME THESE THINGS!
ZZ
OOTOOT
Deep
VVMMM
GRAAAHR

TEK
ONLY ONE WAY TO END OUT: LOOKS LIKE THIS IS A JOB FOR--
-- THE AVENGERS!
BUT SINCE THEY'RE NOT AROUND, GUESS IT'S UP TO ME!
FROM THE ECHOES INSIDE, THIS PLACE SOUNDS FAIRLY EMPTY.
CHEMICAL SMELL... MUSTY... RIGHT BY THE RIVER FOR QUICK AND EASY ILLEGAL DUMPING...
...MUST BE AN OLD OSBORN BUILDING.
TANG OF FRESH-CRACKED METAL-- MY MYSTERY DATE FORCED HIS WAY IN.
AND JUST WHO DO WE HAVE BEHIND DOOR NUMBER ONE?
HEARTBEAT LIKE A FREIGHT TRAIN. BREATHING AS LABORED AS DARTH VADER'S... AVOIDS PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS.
NOT THE HULK-- CLOSE, BUT...
..BUT THIS'LL REALLY MESS UP MY EVENING PLANS.
GRAAARRHL!

tchink-tchingle
HAHN! HAHN!
SUFFER -- I'LL MAKE YOU SUFFER.
YES, YOU'LL PAY FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO--
HYDE!
THAT'S WITH A "Y"; NOT AN "I"--IT'S NOT LIKE I'M TELLING YOU TO GO HIDE, I'M SAYING YOU ARE HYDE, AND--
TKEESH
GRAAAAA!

DAREDEVIL?!
I HAD NEARLY FORGOTTEN YOU--AND HOW ANNOYING YOU TRULY ARE!
ALREADY I LOOK FORWARD TO THE SATISFACTION OF KILLING YOU!
KRUNK
WHOK
IN YOUR FACE!
Ahh... HATE AT FIRST SIGHT!
THAT'S NOT EASY, YOU KNOW! I HAVE TO WORK HARD FOR THAT!
TELL YOU MY SECRET. THREE SIMPLE WORDS...
GRAAAH!
COME ON, HYDE--CAN'T YOU AT LEAST PRETEND THAT HURT A LITTLE?
I HAVE MY ANNUAL SUPER HERO REVIEW IN A FEW WEEKS AND IF I DON'T IMPRESS THE BOARD I'LL BE--

DEAD!
THRAKK
WORSE THAN THAT--THEY'LL DEMOTE ME TO KID SIDEKICK!
AND AT THIS POINT IN MY CAREER THAT'D BE PRETTY DARN EMBARRAS--
YOU'LL BE DEAD!
KOOM
THOK
I GIVE YOU MY WORD!
NGH!
TKEESH

Uhh...
THAT...THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU... HYDE...
..ALWAYS TRY TO .. KEEP YOUR WORD... EVEN IF IT...
...KILLS SOMEONE.
NG!
KRIK
DON'T GET UP, DAREDEVIL--I THINK YOU'VE SEEN QUITE ENOUGH ALREADY!
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR ME! YOU HEROES ALWAYS DO FORGET HOW FAST I MOVE!
YOU'RE A BAD HABIT, DAREDEVIL.
ONE I'M ABOUT TO BREAK!

I KNOW I'M NO ANGEL, HYDE.
FWIPP
HUNH?!
TEK
KRESH
--BUT I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT GIRL CAME CLOSE--
--BEFORE YOU GOT YOUR HANDS ON HER!
SHE WASN'T MORE THAN SIXTEEN, HYDE! DID YOU JUST GRAB HER OFF THE STREET?
WHANG
DID YOU EVEN KNOW WHO SHE WAS?
SHE WAS MINE!
TO DO WITH AS I PLEASED!
GWUK!
WRONG, HYDE: THAT'S A LINE PEOPLE DON'T CROSS! AND IF THEY DO...
...THEY'RE NOT PEOPLE ANY LONGER!
TOK
GCANT..
--BREATHE--
WHOOM

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I HIT THE NERVE CENTER THAT CAUSES YOUR LUNGS' DIAPHRAGM TO INVOLUNTARILY SEIZE.
IT'S OVER, HYDE. YOU'RE THE POLICE'S PROBLEM NOW.
"NO!" I'LL STILL BEAT YOU, DEVIL, AND BE LONG GONE BEFORE--
--THE POLICE ARRIVE? YOU MEAN THESE POLICE?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR THEM COMING UP OUTSIDE WHILE WE WERE FIGHTING? I HEARD THEM!
ALL RIGHT...
ALL RIGHT... COME AND GET ME!
I SURRENDER!
YOU'LL NEVER PROVE I KILLED THE GIRL, DEVIL--NOT IN THIS LIFETIME! BUT BE MY GUEST AND TRY!
I DARE YOU!

..RAN INTO AN OLD FIEND!
OH! LIKE WE CAN REALLY TELL ROSALIND SHARPE THAT!
SHE'S A STICKLER FOR APPOINTMENTS, MATT! SHE MIGHT BE GONE ALREADY! OR MAYBE THAT'S HER COMING DOWN--
MATT! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? IT'S ALMOST TWENTY AFTER--!
SORRY, FOGGY..
PARDON ME, GENTS! COMING THROUGH!
--NOW?
HEY, GUS-- COLLEEN SWINGS BY THE OFFICE, TELL HER SOMETHING CAME UP ON CANAL STREET? THANKS!
MY LIPS TO HER EARS, MISTY.
THAT WASN'T RAZOR-- UNLESS SHE CARRIES A GUN!
I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST HER..
OKAY, LISTEN. FIRST-- PUNCTUALITY I'LL SAY... I'LL SAY OUR CAB HAD A FLAT! SECOND--

Ting
--HATES SMOKERS, SO DON'T--
FOGGY--I DON'T SMOKE, YOU KNOW THAT!
BUT YOU ARE LATE...
...AND I HOPE YOU'LL OWN UP TO IT AND NOT COWER BEHIND SOME OLD CHESTNUT LIKE YOUR CAB HAVING A FLAT!
ROSALIND SHARPE, GENTLEMEN, I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE HAD THE PLEASURE, MR. MURDOCK.
CHAMPAGNE?
NO, THANK YOU, MS. SHARPE, I'M DRIVING.
MY, THIS ROOM HAS QUITE AN ECHO...
THE ENTIRE FLOOR'S GUTTED, MR. MURDOCK. THE FIRST STEP BEFORE MAJOR RENOVATION...
CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE, FRANKLIN?
I MAY CALL YOU FRANKLIN, I ASSUME; AFTER ALL, THE THREE OF US SHOULD BE ON GOOD TERMS...
...SINCE I'M MOVING MY PRACTICE INTO THIS VERY SPACE...
...AND OFFERING BOTH OF YOU PARTNERSHIPS IN IT!
YOUR DRINKS, GENTLEMEN. I INSIST.

TO BE CONTINUED!

# DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

C/O MARVEL COMICS, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016

Letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will withhold that information upon request.

Dear Devil's Advocate,

WOW!!!!!... I'm speechless after reading DAREDEVIL #350! I have never been so touched by a story, or more especially, by a comic before. I think that all of the creators did an outstanding job!

I had never read a DAREDEVIL comic before issue #344 (the Punisher OVER THE EDGE storyline, which is where I started), but after this one, I'm hooked for life! What can I say, besides that I'm hooked on the brilliant mastery of both artwork and writing. I have never seen such dramatic, intense, or relatable subject matter in a comic ever!

DAREDEVIL is such a brilliant break from the ordinary gamma-radiated, super-powered, wall-crawling, high-flying, cosmic-oriented super hero. DAREDEVIL contains a combination of everything from drama and emotion to character hardship and the break from everyday "fighting in every frame" technique that is seen in too many comic books today.

This is one comic I will be reading for a LLLOOONNNGG time so keep up the brilliant work, guys!

Did I happen to tell you how impressed I am with the brilliant direction of where DAREDEVIL is headed, and did I use the word "brilliant" to describe it???!!

Dave Marcin
765 Garden St.
Rahway, NJ 07065

**Wow is right, Dave! Such praise is liable to go to our heads! Response to issue #350 was overwhelming, and most readers seemed to really enjoy the little tale we spun.**

**By the way, if any of you enjoyed the work Ivan Velez, Jr. did on #350, you can catch his work monthly over on GHOST RIDER!**

Dear Redlines,

I have been reading comics for a long time and one of my favorite titles has always been DAREDEVIL. Lately, though, I raised my eyebrows about the changes that you have made with the character. One thing that I always liked about Daredevil is that he was an honest and kind person. He was a unique hero because he didn't just beat the crap out of villains like every other super hero.

Ever since your "Fall from Grace" storyline, you have totally changed the character by making him a violent lunatic, which goes against everything that Daredevil used to stand for. I would appreciate whatever you can do to bring back the character he was.

Lately, it seems that every hero has gone wacko. Please don't let DAREDEVIL have the same fate as them. Be different than the other comics that glorify violence as the solution and show nothing but bloodbaths in their comics.

Andrew Edwards
3531 Hennen Rd.
Burnsville, MN 55337

**Both the super hero Daredevil and the man Matt Murdock have returned to their roots recently, Andrew, which should satisfy your need to see ol' Hornhead as his former great self. True, Matt's been through a bunch of changes since the "Fall from Grace" storyline a few years back, but when you live a life as hectic as Matt Murdock's, it's hard not to go through some pretty big changes.**

**Now that DAREDEVIL is back to its former glory, we can guarantee that you'll be seeing some fantastic stories—courtesy of Karl Kesel and Cary Nord—that smack of everything but a violent lunatic! Or "Honey Smacks" cereal for that matter!**

Dear Devil's Advocate,

The story "Purgatorio-Paradiso" in issues #348-350 was a masterpiece. It was amazing that Matt never once donned his costume or battled a lethal foe. Still, my interest was captivated by the sheer emotional power of the tale. My hat is off to the very talented creators who helped bring this story alive.

This was the psychological dissection of a tortured man. One lesson crystallized in the midst of the anguish Matt felt—no one can forever bury his or her sins. Eventually, they must be dealt with. As this reality ripped him apart, the man who was Daredevil sought Sister Maggie for guidance.

Ultimately, this is a humanistic parable, a reflection of the philosophy of our age. This society vehemently denies the existence of any absolutes. We demand to live our own way. Absolutes deny us the freedom we crave, so we ignore them.

Matt went his own way, or actually that of his mentor, Stick. Notice that he desperately began seeking forgiveness but ended by merely finding "himself". He came at last to accept all his failures and became whole. But is that salvation? His sins still clung to his soul. He was not forgiven.

There is absolute truth. There are not many ways to salvation, but only one. That concept may be intolerable to this "enlightened" age, but it remains the one shaft of light in a very great darkness. Instead of denying us our freedom, these absolutes give us the only genuine freedom we can know.

Ken Gilbert
230 Mill St.
Danville, PA 17821

**That's quite an analysis you've formulated on "Purgatorio-Paradiso" there, Ken. There are many different ways that a reader could interpret this story, but when all is said and done, what remains is a story about a heroic man. And that's what DAREDEVIL is all about.**

## NEXT ISSUE:

**Who is Rosalind Sharpe and what is her hold over Foggy? What ace does Mr. Hyde have up his sleeve? And why is someone gunning for Daredevil and Spider-Man?!**

**All this in 30 days, True Believer. Courtesy of Karl, Cary, Matt, Christie, Jim, and the whole gang!**

BEAST CHARMING
Perenially purveying a plenitude of purty, prettified pictures to my peerless pals!
HUMBLE CONTRIBUTOR TO #THECOMICRACK
Queries? Requests? Contact me at BeastCharming@yahoo.com
Pledged to scan all series great and small...